

## Nevada Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

### 1. How will the Recovery Act work?

Twenty-eight different agencies – such as the Departments of Education; Health and Human Services; and Energy – have been allocated a portion of the \$787 billion in Recovery funds. Each agency develops specific plans for how it will spend its Recovery Act funds. The agencies then award grants and contracts to state governments or, in some cases, directly to schools, hospitals, contractors, or other organizations. Starting in October 2009, recipients will report quarterly on how they spend the Recovery Act funds that they received.

### 2. How much money will Nevada receive from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)?

It is estimated that Nevada will receive more than \$2 billion in direct appropriations from the Recovery Act. There is also more funding available for specific areas through competitive bidding among states and organizations.

### 3. How is the money distributed?

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) includes many different funding streams that are allocated to the states in primarily three ways: through existing programs, through existing funding formulas and through competitive grant processes. In some cases, the money will go directly to state governments. In other cases, the funds will go directly to a school, hospital, contractor, or other organization.

According to the White House the money is distributed to the following categories: \$288 billion - Tax Relief

- a. \$144 billion - State and Local Fiscal Relief
- b. \$111 billion - Infrastructure and Science
- c. \$81 billion - Protecting the Vulnerable
- d. \$59 billion - Health Care
- e. \$53 billion - Education and Training
- f. \$43 billion - Energy
- g. \$8 billion - Other

### 4. What is a “shovel-ready” project?

Priority for funding will be given to "shovel ready" projects - those that have the requisite planning, ownership of necessary resources, environmental and historical review approvals and permits in place - so that federal funds can be spent as quickly as possible, putting Nevada citizens to work and injecting dollars into the economy.

### 5. Who is picking which projects are funded?

For each funding opportunity in the ARRA, either a federal government agency or a state government department will make eligibility determinations for funding. In most cases, the eligibility criteria are already established under previously established federal and state statutes and regulations. For the most part State of Nevada Agencies have little or no discretion on the permitted purposes for the funds. However, Governor Gibbons and members of his administration have been communicating with legislative leadership, as well as city, county, and other local officials regarding critical projects that may qualify for funding and are “shovel-ready.”

**6. How do I get access to stimulus money?**

Most stimulus funds flow directly to the states through existing federal formulas and existing federal and state programs. Some funding will be available through competitive grants, and those interested in applying for these funds should contact the federal and state agencies associated with their particular area of interest. For example, companies and individuals interested in applying for renewable energy, energy efficiency and coal conversion grants should contact the Nevada State Office of Energy for more information. <http://energy.state.nv.us/recovery/Vendors.htm>.

**7. How would my organization pursue business opportunities made available by the Recovery Act?**

If you are new to the government procurement process, [Click here](#) to contact the Small Business Administration of Nevada. SBA programs and services support you, the small business person. To learn more about SBA-backed loans, government contracting opportunities, disaster assistance and training programs to help your business succeed [Click here](#).

**8. Can my community/organization still apply for grant money?**

The designated federal or state agency sets the criteria for project eligibility following existing state and federal law and regulations. Individuals or business seeking business opportunities need to be aware of federal and state contracting guidelines and regulations. They also need to become familiar with timelines and additional criteria identified in the Recovery Act. To learn more about federal business and contracting opportunities visit [Grants.gov](#), [Fedbizopps.gov](#). For state contracting opportunities, [Click here](#).

[Check this website](#) which lists stimulus projects broken down by state, county and city. All projects are included from announcement to completion. Everything from installing solar panels on federal buildings to installing new kitchen cabinets in a Nevada Housing Authority office is included.

**9. How can citizens be sure that the funds are spent responsibly and efficiently?**

Due to the unprecedented scope of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, stimulus funds are subject to additional and more rigorous reporting requirements than normally apply to grant recipients. All State of Nevada ARRA funds will be tracked separately in the State's accounting system with a unique code to identify funds as ARRA. The law requires that for every program funded through the stimulus package, states must report to the federal government how much money it received, how much it spent, what it used the money for, how the funds were distributed, and the number of jobs that were saved or created. A summary of the State of Nevada's Section 1512 reports is available on this web site and on the [www.Recovery.gov](http://www.Recovery.gov) federal Web site.

**10. Will the Recovery Act provide for additional unemployment benefits?**

<http://www.detr.state.nv.us/recovery.htm>

**11. How do I file for unemployment insurance?**

[http://detr.state.nv.us/ESD/Pages/File\\_UI\\_claim .htm](http://detr.state.nv.us/ESD/Pages/File_UI_claim.htm)

**12. How much road construction money will Nevada receive and where will it be spent?**

<http://www.nevadadot.com/projects/Stimulus/ov.asp>

**13. How will food assistance be affected?**

[http://www.purchasing.state.nv.us/com\\_food/com\\_1.html](http://www.purchasing.state.nv.us/com_food/com_1.html)